

## REMARKS

The Final Official Action continues to reject Claims 1-6, 8-11, 12, 14-18, and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,359,003 to Knighton et al. (hereinafter “Knighton”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,636,259 to Anderson et al. (hereinafter “Anderson”) and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,384,863 to Bronson (hereinafter “Bronson”). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knighton in view of Anderson in view of Bronson and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,719,799 to Isahi (hereinafter “Isahi”). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knighton in view of Anderson in view of Bronson and in further view of another embodiment of Knighton. As described in detail below, independent Claim 1 has been amended to further patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the cited references, taken either individually or in any proper combination. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the present application and allowance of the amended set of claims is respectfully requested.

Embodiments of the present invention generally relate to a mobile communication station including a camera and a body that comprises two portions that may be mechanically coupled to one another by a linkage that permits rotation of one of the portions relative to the other. One portion includes a grip for being gripped by a user during use of the communication station. The grip may have a first, compact configuration and a second configuration in which the grip is expanded relative to the first configuration. When the grip is in the second, expanded configuration, the grip improves the user’s grasp on the mobile communication station.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of previously dependent Claim 11. Independent Claim 25 has been amended to incorporate the features of previously dependent Claim 26. Claim 28 has been added to incorporate subject matter supported by the Published PCT application in the last paragraph of page 5. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

The first embodiment of Knighton, reproduced below and further illustrated in FIGS. 1-9, discloses a camera which includes three main sub-assemblies: a grip 102, a display assembly

104, and an optic sub-assembly including a lens 106. As illustrated in Fig. 6a to 6d, the camera may be manipulated by a user into a variety of physical configurations. Fig. 6a illustrates a compact configuration where actuation of a release 110 causes the display assembly 104 to transition away from the grip 102 (Fig 6b). The display 104 is then rotatable relative to the grip 102 and to the optic assembly (Fig 6c). The grip 102 is also movable relative to the optic assembly and the display assembly 104 as it may be tilted backwards and forwards (Fig. 6d).

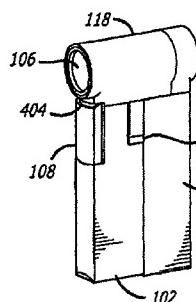


FIG. 6A

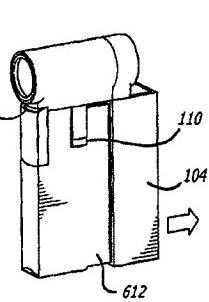


FIG. 6B

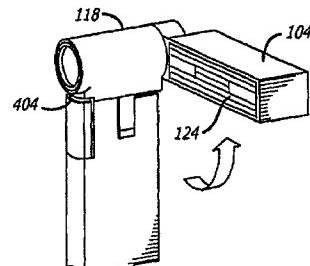


FIG. 6C

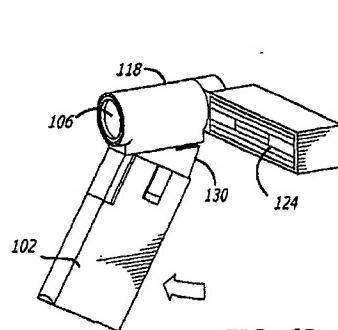


FIG. 6D

The second embodiment of Knighton illustrated in Figs 10 and 11 discloses a digital camera with a binocular display that resides within a compact housing 1002. The housing 1002 defines a pair of lobe hand grips 1028 that may be coated with an elastomeric material to provide improved grip for the user. A visor 1010 is coupled to the housing 1020 to rest on a user's forehead when the device is held by a user. The visor 1010 may be hinged to the housing 1002 and may pivot between an open position and a closed position.

Anderson is directed to network communication of hand-held electronic devices. The portion of Anderson cited by the Office Action relates to a digital camera that may be configured to communicate wirelessly through a wired or wireless connection with a cell phone or the digital camera may be provided with built in cell phone-like wireless communication (see Col. 4, lines 47-54).

Bronson discloses a digital camera that includes two sections: a hand grip 100 and a lens assembly 200. The hand grip 100 is connected to the lens assembly 200 by a telescoping and rotating device 160. As illustrated in Figs. 1A and 1B (reproduced below), the hand grip 100 and the lens assembly 200 may be moved from the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 1A to the extended

arrangement illustrated in Fig. 1B. When taking a picture, a user may raise the lens assembly 200 to eye level while at the same time keeping the hand that is holding the hand grip 100 at elbow level.

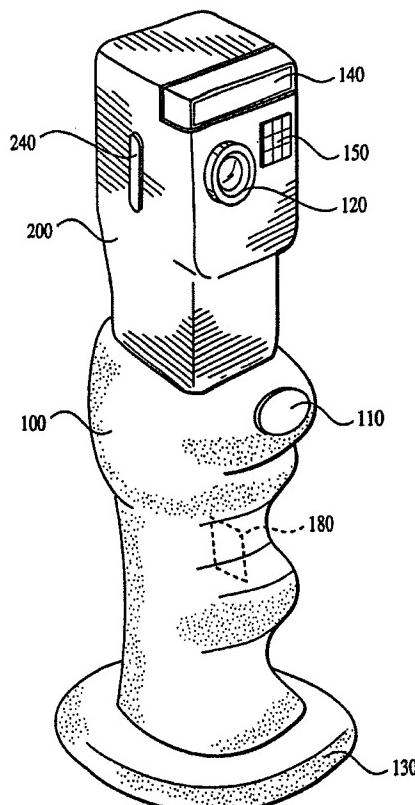


FIG. 1A

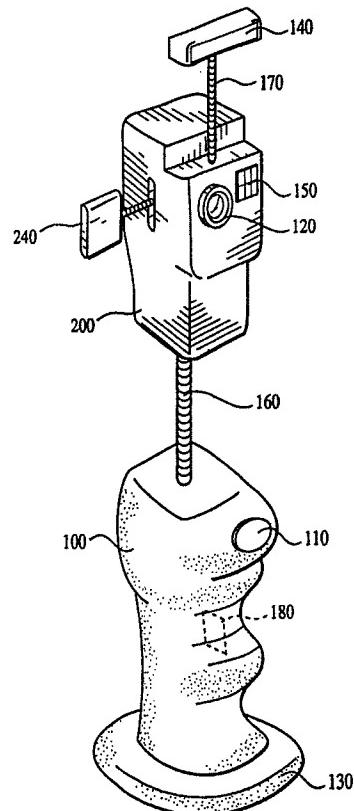


FIG. 1B

Independent Claim 1 recites a camera having a body, the body comprising two portions wherein “one of said portions having a grip for being gripped by a user during use of the communication station, the grip having a first compact configuration and a second configuration in which the grip is expanded relative to the first configuration to improve the grip of the user on the communication station when the grip is in the second expanded configuration.” Amended independent Claim 1 further recites “wherein the grip has a core portion and at least one outer wall movable away from the core portion, and wherein when moving from the first, compact configuration to the second, expanded configuration the at least one outer wall is moved linearly

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away from the core portion.” As amended Claim 1 now recites the features of Claim 11, the rejection with respect to Claim 11 is hereby addressed.

As acknowledged by the Examiner on page 6 of the Final Office Action, Knighton does not disclose that “the grip has a core portion and at least one outer wall movable away from the core portion, and wherein when moving from the first compact configuration to the second expanded configuration the at least one outer wall is moved linearly away from the core portion.” Knighton merely discloses that the grip 102 may be moved in a circular path (i.e., a non-linear path). Consequently, Claim 1 is not anticipated by Knighton.

Applicant asserts that it would not be obvious, or even possible, for one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt the teaching of Knighton, in view of Bronson, to fall within the scope of amended Claim 1 as alleged by the Office Action. Bronson does not teach or suggest that “the grip has a core portion and **at least one outer wall movable away from the core portion**, and wherein when moving from the first compact configuration to the second expanded configuration **the at least one outer wall is moved linearly away from the core portion**” as recited in Claim 1. Bronson merely discloses that the hand grip 100 is movable away from the lens assembly 200. There is no disclosure within Bronson that the grip 100 has a core portion and at least one outer wall which is moveable linearly away from the core portion. Further, the Final Office Action mischaracterizes the claim language in view of the disclosure of Bronson noting that “the lens assembly” is allowed to “move linearly away from the grip” which is not congruent with the claimed features. Consequently, the combination of Knighton and Bronson cannot teach or suggest a device comprising the features of Claim 1.

As noted above, Bronson teaches that the hand grip 100 is movable away from the lens assembly 100. In the final office action, the Examiner alleges that the “grip” recited in Claim 1 is analogous to the grip 102 and the breech 130 of Knighton (see page 4, lines 9-10 of the Final Office Action). Consequently, if the teaching of Bronson was applied to Knighton, it would result in the device of Knighton being adapted so that the lens housing 118 is connected to the breech 130 and the grip 102 via a telescoping and rotating device 160. Such a combination would not result in a device where an outer wall of a grip may be moved linearly away from a core portion of the grip since the grip 102 and breech 130 mechanism of Knighton remains

unchanged. Consequently, Claim 1 is not obvious in view of the combination of Knighton and Bronson.

In view of the above, independent Claim 1 is patentably distinct from the cited references, taken alone or in combination. Independent method Claim 25 recites elements similar to those of Claim 1 and was rejected for the same reasons noted above. As such, Claim 25 is similarly patentably distinct from the cited references, taken alone or in combination. Therefore, Claims 1 and 25, and the claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

While dependent Claims 24 and 27 are patentable for at least the same reasons as independent Claim 1 from which they depend, Applicant asserts that Claims 24 and 27 are further patentably distinct from the cited references for additional reasons. In particular, none of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features of Claims 24 and 27. The Final Office Action alleges that the features of Claims 24 and 27 are rendered obvious by Figure 6D of Knighton and Figures 1A and 1B of Bronson. However, neither Knighton nor Bronson disclose a grip having an outer wall that moves linearly and perpendicularly away (relative to the first axis) from a core portion of the grip. This feature is advantageous in that it results in a grip that is wider in the second, expanded configuration and therefore may better fit a user's hand.

While new dependent Claim 28 is patentable for at least the same reasons as independent Claim 1 from which it depends, Claim 28 is further patentably distinct from the cited art as none of the cited art teaches or suggests that a device may change physical configuration in response to a change in operating mode of a mobile communication station.

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## CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the present claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned agent to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

The patentability of the independent claims has been argued as set forth above and thus Applicant will not take this opportunity to argue the merits of the rejection with regard to specific dependent claims. However, Applicant does not concede that the dependent claims are not independently patentable and reserves the right to argue the patentability of dependent claims at a later date if necessary.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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